

M-G-M to Road-Show Pearl S. Buck's "The Good Earth"

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 28, No. 7

TORONTO 2, CANADA

June 6th, 1936

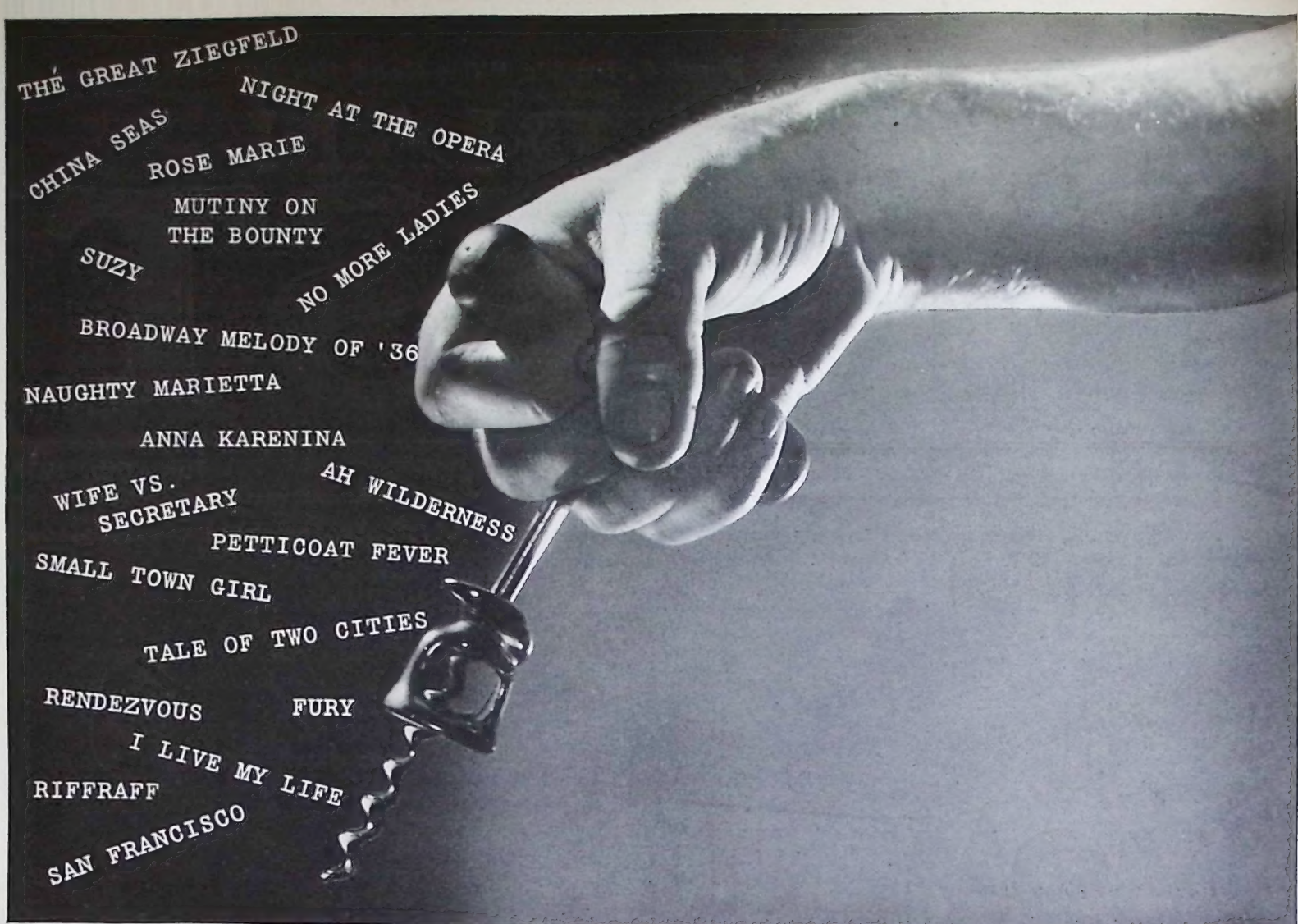
"1 MOMENT PLEASE"



In its 7th Week at the Astor Theatre the business for M-G-M's "The Great Ziegfeld" on Thursday was \$302 better than the *first* Thursday. That's really excellent! In Frisco the 6th week topped the *first week* by more than two thousand dollars. That's *magnificent*! And we're happy to report that this great Road-show in its 225 engagements (*the list is increasing daily*) is doing SWELL!

Isn't it a jolly thought that "THE GREAT ZIEGFELD" (At Popular Prices) will be the first release of M-G-M's 1936-1937 season and what a flying start for M-G-M's YEAR OF BIG ONES!

PUBLISHED BY
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2



THE LIFE OF THE PARTY!

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has always been the leader in that delightful habit of making BIG BUDGET PRODUCTIONS. Each year Leo has given you more and more of them. It's become a HABIT with us to make 'em...and a HABIT with you to expect them. And so-o-o...we're going to SPECIALIZE EVEN MORE in 1936-37 on a flock of BIG ONES! There are 30 BIG BUDGET PRODUCTIONS actually in preparation NOW with many of them COMPLETED! The total number of M-G-M Feature Pictures next season will range between 44 and 52 and you'll agree with our descriptive slogan: "Glorifying the American Screen."

Carl Laemmle, Senior and Junior, Sign James Whale for Independent Productions

Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

Established
1915

Publication Weekly

Subscription: \$5.00 yearly

Telephone: Waverley 4929

259 Spadina Ave., Toronto

RAY LEWIS

Editor and Publisher

THE LITTLE PAPER WITH THE BIG IDEAS

"Easy to Digest"

Published by Canadian
Moving Picture Digest
Company, Limited

English Representative:
Dennison Thornton
15 Redcliffe Square,
Earl's Court,
London, S.W. 10, England.

Vol. 28, No. 7

TORONTO 2, CANADA

June 6th, 1936

THE NEW ERA



THE Annual Report of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, Inc., by Mr. Will H. Hays, President, presents a valuable

survey of progress

and trends". The survey presents the ten best pictures of 1935, as selected by various groups, and starts off with "A Midsummer Night's Dream", Warner Bros. - Max Reinhardt production, of Shakespeare's poetical and merry fantasy. "Mutiny on the Bounty" which gave Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer another first place, for this "saga of the sea". "A Tale of Two Cities", which followed M-G-M's world-famous production of an earlier Dickens' masterpiece, "David Copperfield". "The Story of Louis Pasteur", in which Warner Bros. again make box-office, as well as prestige - history. "The Informer", that RKO masterpiece, directed by John Ford; and which made its way to fame and fortune by word of mouth and editorial praise, giving Victor McLaglen, a first-place prize for the best performance, and a come-back which no one will ever forget. "Black Fury", story of a coal-mine, material which Warner Bros. know so well how to handle. "Ruggles of Red Gap", Paramount's bounding success with Charles Laughton, the latter in a characterization which gave him as much publicity as "Henry VIII".

"Les Miserables", Victor Hugo's classic, which Darryl Zanuck produced as a great film for 20th Century, when the tie-up was with United Artists. "The Farmer Take A Wife", the Fox production of "an interesting period of American history". RKO's bumper box-office musicals, with Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, namely, "Top Hat" and "Follow The Fleet". Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "Natural" box-office musicals, "Rose Marie" and "Naughty Marietta", with those magnetic-voiced stars,

Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy, both of whom sing like a beautiful dream, and look as good, also.

Mr. Hays' list closes with "Ah Wilderness", the Eugene O'Neill comedy of youth, which Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer produced so faithfully. "The trend continues," states Mr. Hays, "toward higher artistic standards," and the coming artistic productions, such as "Romeo and Juliet", M-G-M, with Norma Shearer and Leslie Howard; RKO's historical tragedy, "Mary of Scotland", with Katharine Hepburn, are just two of many productions which herald the new seasons Gems of the Screen!

"SHOW BOAT" GOING STRONG!

UNIVERSAL'S "Show Boat" opened at the Uptown, Thursday, June 4th, and sent a capacity audience away, singing and happy. The Management of the Uptown predict a long run for "Show Boat", in which Irene Dunne, Paul Robeson, Helen Morgan and a sparkling cast of stars excell themselves individually, and collectively! "No picture has received more spontaneous praise from our patrons," said Mr. Jack Arthur.

THEATRES FOR CANADA

NORTH, South, East, West, wherever you go in Canada, we find theatre construction. New theatres are going up everywhere. The day and night of the Honky-Tonk is over. Build, reconstruct or someone will build right on your doorstep; remember if it is good enough and safe enough for the "other fellow", it should be good enough and safe enough for you! Canada is good for 500 new theatres.



R



RAY LEWIS

P

TWO little girls playing together, observed with solemn countenance, the familiar figure of a doctor associated with Stork Deliveries going into the home of one of the little girls. The little girl, into whose home the physician entered, said to her playmate, "We have a baby, a little girl, Dr..... brought her". Whereupon her little playmate said, "O! Dr....., we take from him, too".

I am reminded of this story, in reading Roly Young's *Rambling*, apropos of "England Discovers Canada". It refers to some publicity which Roly states sprang into being, at the Gaumont-British Studios, Shepherd's Bush, London, an excerpt of which is as follows: "Every one of the mushroom towns which sprang up along the ever-growing trail of the Canadian Pacific Railway, during its construction in the early 80's had, of course, its saloon. The town in which the events of 'The Great Barrier' take place is no exception; and during the past month work has been going on for scenes in the 'Rat Trap Saloon'. 'The Rat Trap' is typical of the rough-and-ready liquor-house in which the railway workers spent much of their spare time, and more of their wages."

The story continues to talk of the "naughty ladies", with black silk stockings, and tightened waists, who danced with the 'Rat Trap' frequenters; naughty ladies, C.P.R. Annies, similar to "Klondike Annie," I expect.

IT'S great publicity for the C.P.R., who must have been inspired to co-operate with the production of this story, but I question whether the C.P.R. officials, Board of Directors, shareholders in Canada, will enjoy the "shady side of this picture," for it was the C.P.R. which opened up Canada, studding its iron and steel pathway with flourishing towns, now grown into cities, and helping to win for Canada its world wheat prizes, for Bumper Crops and Quality.

We have in Canada, this part of the world, called Toronto, a group of artists, who hunt up the slum districts to picturize upon canvas.

Upset garbage cans, with the cats who never stayed at home at night since they first learned to "me-ow," the old man's patched-up underwear floating in the breeze, a broken window stuffed with a dirty pillow, a shutter hanging perilously from a rusty hinge, a child who looks as if Toronto had forgotten anything about "Suffer little children to come unto Me, for such is the Kingdom of Heaven", such subjects have inspired this type of artist.

There may have been "saloons" during the building of the C.P.R., but such institutions are only a splash of red, in a history ablaze with brilliant colour.

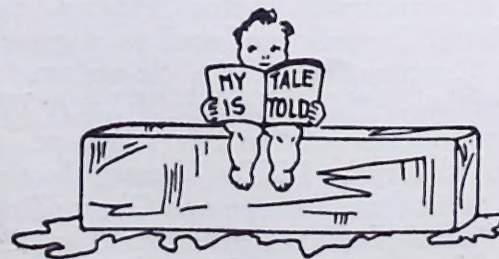
And, incidentally, being a Canadian, may I suggest to the producers of this history of the C.P.R., that Canadians will not enjoy the idea of a British picture, made in Canada, or in England, which emphasizes this "saloon" angle. Believe it or not, we have our "fling," but it's in the nature of a "Highland fling"; we let ourselves go, but "we aim to be respectable".

H. G. WELLS - KORDA'S picturization of "Things To Come," has gone into its second week at the Imperial. Tom Daley gave "Things To Come" a great front house appeal, got the picture off to a big start and sent it sailing into its second week. It is difficult to place "Things To Come" in comparison with other pictures. Certainly it is a daring venture, and takes first place in that line-up of big pictures with an educational appeal. Starting off with its "hounds of war" in order to build up its gospel of peace, "Things To Come" moves with the stride of a colossus through a century of history, and reveals, through all the progress of Machinery and Science, the beast in Man, the beast who seeks to grab Power, Riches, Dominion over Earth, even by "The Sword"!

In the hopelessness of this picture, there is some inspiration for Faith, for Idealism. There is a "glorious minority" which visions life on other planets and human contact with that life; a new order of human beings, who will seek Peace from the Counsels of the Stars, giving their life to achieve such at-oneness!

I cannot call this picture "box-office" in the accepted sense of the word, and yet it may build better than we know, for has it not been said "Those who came to scoff, remained to pray".

This happy-go-lucky public of ours may be fascinated by the immensity of "Things To Come," and the mechanical inventiveness of its conception!



Universal's "Show Boat" Makes Big Hit, Opening Uptown, Toronto—Looks Like a Long Run



Show Business



"Sworn Enemy" Is Started at M-G-M

With Joseph Calleia, Robert Young, Florence Rice, Lewis Stone and Nat Pendleton in featured roles, "Sworn Enemy", a story of present-day crime operations, has just gone into production at M-G-M, under the direction of Edwin L. Marin.

Calleia plays the Lon Chaney-like character of Dan Emerald, crippled overlord of Metropolitan food rackets. Young is a son of the city slums who has sworn to avenge the brutal death of his brother at the hands of racketeers. Stone and Miss Rice are father and daughter, he a paroled convict, innocent of the crime accused, determined to get revenge on the man who sent him to prison. Nat Pendleton has the chief comedy role.

Joan Bennett, Fred Stone to Co-Star

"By the Dawn's Early Light", an original story by Gene Markey, will be filmed by RKO Radio with Joan Bennett and Fred Stone in the leading roles, according to studio announcement.

The new film will be started when Miss Bennett returns from London, where she is to make a picture for an English company.

The Markey story deals with the adventurous lives of an American consul and his daughter in a bandit-ridden section of China. Edward Kaufman will produce the film for RKO Radio.

Buck Jones Starts "Ride 'Em Cowboy"

Buck Jones yesterday started his latest Universal western production. It is entitled "Ride 'Em Cowboy" and was adapted by Frances Guihan from a story which Buck Jones himself wrote. It will be directed by Les Selander. Luane Walters will be leading lady and the supporting cast includes such well known players as George Cooper, William Lawrence, J. P. McGowan, Joseph Gerard, Donald Kirke and Charles Lemoyne.

Fairbanks Jr.'s New Film "Accused"

"Accused" is the new title of the forthcoming Criterion production, previously called "To You My Life". Douglas Fairbanks, Junior, and Dolores Del Rio are starred in this screen play, under the direction of Thornton Freeland.

"Accused" is the second film for which young Fairbanks has acted in the dual capacity of star-producer. The first was "The Amateur Gentleman", recently released through United Artists.

Dick Powell to Star in "Gold Diggers of 1937"

A wire from the Warner Bros. studios in California announces that Dick Powell will head the all star cast of "Gold Diggers of 1937", which will be produced late in the summer or early in the autumn. According to present plans the "Gold Diggers" will be based on the play, "Sweet Mystery of Life".

James Stewart in M-G-M's "Easy to Love"

James Stewart's tap dancing lessons haven't been in vain, for the actor has been cast in the leading male role in Eleanor Powell's musical, "Easy to Love". Stewart took up dancing to build up his weight and thus received one of the choice roles of the season as the sailor who becomes involved in too many romances. His selection not only forms a new romantic screen team, but also a new comedy trio, that of Stewart, Buddy Ebsen, and Sid Silvers. Frank Morgan and Una Merkel have also been cast in the musical, for which Cole Porter wrote the music and which Roy Del Ruth is to direct.

Sonja Henie Joins 20th Century-Fox

Sonja Henie, world's figure skating champion, has signed a five-year acting contract with 20th Century-Fox Films, it was announced yesterday (Thursday) by Darryl F. Zanuck, vice-president in charge of production.

The blonde Olympic winner will appear in an all-star cast in "Peach Edition", adapted from a story by that title, written by Mark Kelly, formerly sports editor of the Los Angeles Examiner.

Wanted to act as part time representative, man in contact with theatres. Line already established Can. Electrical Supply. Commission. Apply BOX 12 — DIGEST

COMPLETE Theatre Equipment and Supplies

Projectors and Parts.
Motor Generators.
Sound Screens.
Lenses, Carbons, etc.
Everything for the Theatre
from Sheet to Street.

Coleman Electric Co.

258 Victoria St.
TORONTO, ONT.

Toronto Theatres

LOEWS—Manager Jules Bernstein — Francis Lederer and Ida Lupino in "One Rainy Afternoon". A Pickford-Lasky production.

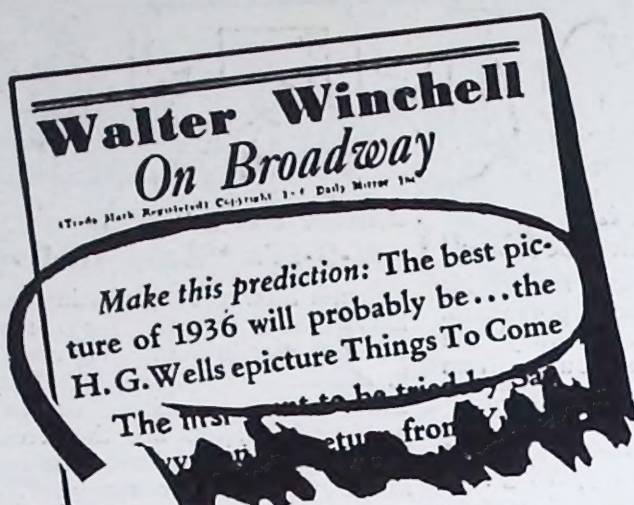
TIVOLI—Manager D. Krendal — Marlene Dietrich and Gary Cooper in "Desire" a Paramount picture. Also Carole Lombard in Universal's "Love Before Breakfast".

UPTOWN—Manager Jack Arthur — Wallace Berry, Barbara Stanwyck and John Boles in 20th Century-Fox's "Message To Garcia". Also "Every Saturday Night," a 20th Century-Fox production.

IMPERIAL—Manager Tom Daley — Alexander Korda's "Things to Come," with Raymond Massey and Pearl Argyle.

SHEA'S—Manager Jerry Shea — Columbia's "Rolling Along". Also stage show.

Showmen's Trade Review Calls M-G-M's "Romeo and Juliet" 'Great Attraction! Lavishly Produced! Will Make History!'



Toronto Agrees With You, Walter!

The Big Imperial Theatre Has Been Packed to the Doors All This Week, with Hundreds Turned Away. Of Course It is Being

Held Over for Another Week!
And Probably for Still Longer!

H-G-WELLS

Amazing Prediction of the Future!

THINGS TO COME



An **ALEXANDER KORDA** Production
with **RAYMOND MASSEY • RALPH RICHARDSON**
SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE • PEARL ARGYLE
PATRICIA HILLIARD • MARGARETTA SCOTT
and a cast of 20,000 • Directed by **WM. CAMERON MENZIES**



*Year's Most Sensational and Most
Talked-About Production!*

A Box Office Attraction Such as You
Seldom Get a Chance to Play!

Get Busy! Get Dates! Do It Now!

Distributed in Canada by **REGAL FILMS LIMITED**